

In the claims:

Following is a complete set of claims as amended with this Response.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~A socket~~ comprising:  
a socket grid of a socket to receive pins from an integrated circuit ~~a component~~;  
a frame of the socket coupled to the socket grid to provide structural support; and  
a cable connector ~~receptacle~~ integrated into the socket to receive a cable, the cable  
connector having guides to assist in guiding a cable into engagement with the cable connector, and  
an actuator lever pivotally attached to the socket operable to retain a cable in the cable connector.
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~socket~~ of claim 1 wherein signals are routed through the socket.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~socket~~ of claim 2 wherein the routed signals are routed to a motherboard.
4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~socket~~ of claim 3 ~~+~~ wherein the signals are selected from a group comprising I/O signals, power signals, ground signals, and combinations thereof.
5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~socket~~ of claim 4 wherein the power signals and the ground signals are routed through ~~are provided through a power plane embedded in the~~ socket to the motherboard and the I/O signals are routed through the socket to the cable connector.
6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~socket~~ of claim 4 wherein the I/O signals are routed through ~~ground signals are provided through a power plane embedded in the socket to the~~ cable connector and are not routed to the motherboard.
7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~socket~~ of claim 1 further including an actuator lever pivotally coupled to the frame to hold the component in place.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus socket of claim 1 wherein the component is an integrated circuit (IC).

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus socket of claim 8 wherein the IC is one of a CPU and a chipset.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus socket of claim 1 wherein the cable connector receptacle includes contact prongs.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus socket of claim 10 wherein at least one of the contact prongs is spring loaded to assist in engaging the cable.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus socket of claim 10 wherein at least one of the contact prongs is self-piercing to establish electrical contact with the cable.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus socket of claim 1 wherein the frame and the socket grid are manufactured as a single piece.

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further ~~A computer system~~ comprising:

a central processing unit (CPU); and

a memory coupled to the CPU to store data for operation by the CPU;

and wherein the integrated circuit component is an integrated socket to receive the CPU;

~~a socket grid to receive pins from the CPU;~~

~~a frame coupled to the socket grid to provide structural support; and~~

~~a cable receptacle integrated into the socket to receive a cable.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus computer system of claim 14 further including a memory control hub coupled between the memory and the CPU.

16 - 27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting an integrated circuit a component comprising:

placing the integrated circuit component in a socket, the socket having a grid to receive pins from the component; and

connecting a cable to a cable connector receptacle integrated into the socket to receive the cable, the cable having guides to assist in guiding the cable into engagement with the cable connector, and an actuator lever pivotally attached to the socket operable to retain the cable in the cable connector, the cable connector receptacle-routing signals between the cable and the pins.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 further including routing one or more signals through the socket.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29 ~~28~~ wherein the one or more signals are ~~selected from a group comprising IO signals, power signals, ground signals, and combinations thereof.~~

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~socket~~ of claim 2 wherein the routed signals are routed between the pins and the cable connector receptacle.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~socket~~ of claim 1 wherein the cable connector receptacle comprises a latch to secure a cable in the cable connector receptacle.

34. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~socket~~ of claim 1 wherein the cable connector receptacle comprises a cable receptacle connector.

35. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~computer system~~ of claim 34 ~~14~~ wherein signals are routed between the pins and the cable receptacle.

36. (Currently Amended) The apparatus computer-system of claim 35 wherein the signals comprise at least one of I/O signals, power signals and ground signals.

37. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further ~~A computer system~~ comprising:

a motherboard;

a central processing unit (CPU), the CPU being the integrated circuit component, the pins of which are received by the socket;

~~a CPU socket to receive the CPU, the CPU socket having a cable connector;~~

a memory control hub (MCH);

an MCH socket to receive the MCH, the MCH socket having a cable connector;

a cable to interconnect the CPU socket cable connector and the MCH socket cable connector.

38. (Currently Amended) The apparatus computer-system of claim 37 wherein the cable carries ~~signals comprising at least one of I/O signals and does not carry~~ power signals ~~and ground signals~~ between the CPU and the MCH.

39. (Currently Amended) The apparatus computer-system of claim 37 wherein the cable comprise a computer flex cable.

40. (Currently Amended) The apparatus computer-system of claim 37 wherein the MCH CPU socket cable connector comprises a latch to secure the cable.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein connecting the cable comprises inserting a cable along the guides of the cable connector into a cable receptacle and operating the actuator lever ~~closing a latch~~ to secure the cable.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 further comprising:

placing a second component in a second socket, the second socket having a grid to receive pins from the second component; and

connecting the cable to a second cable connector receptacle integrated into the second socket, the second cable connector receptacle routing signals between the cable and the pins of the second socket.